

Amendments to the Specification

On page 6, amend the last paragraph as follows:

The invention is explained in more detail by means of the following embodiment and accompanying drawing which diagrammatically illustrates a floor covering 10 according to the invention. A floor panel 12 in a 1285 x 185 x 8 mm format is provided as the rigid floor covering. This consists of a 0.8 mm thick high pressure laminate layer, a 6.4 mm thick HDF support sheet with a density of 870 kg/m³ and a 0.8 mm thick high pressure laminate balancing layer. A thermoplastic layer 14 consisting of a copolymer is applied to the floor panel by means of spreading equipment on the back of the panel at a temperature of 150°C. The copolymer consists of vinyl acetate with an acrylate proportion of 12 wt.%. The thickness of the applied layer is 0.7 mm.